

REMARKS

Claim 11 has been amended. As such, claims 1, 3-12, 14, 16-24, 27, and 28 are currently pending in the case. Further examination and reconsideration of the presently claimed application are respectfully requested.

Allowed Claims

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's allowance of claims 1, 3-10, 23, 24, 27, and 28 noted in the Advisory Action mailed July 17, 2003 and eagerly awaits formal allowance of the remaining claims.

Claim Amendments

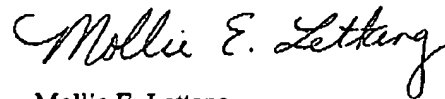
Claim 11 has been amended in the interest to expedite the resolution of the presently claimed case on appeal. In particular, claim 11 has been amended to clarify the adaptation of shields to be adjustable independent of an arm of the claimed spray element. Although it is asserted that such an amendment is not needed to overcome the § 102(c) rejections of claims 11, 12, 14, 16 and 17 noted in the Appeal Brief mailed October 3, 2003, it is believed that such an amendment addresses the concerns expressed in the Examiner's Answer mailed March 17, 2004. Consequently, removal of the 102(c) rejections of claims 11, 12, 14, 16 and 17 as on appeal is respectfully requested. As noted in a Reply Brief filed in conjunction with this Amendment and in response to the Examiner's Answer mailed March 17, 2004, claims 18-22 are asserted to be patentably distinct over the cited art and, therefore, removal of the 102(c) rejections of claims 18-22 is requested as well.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1, 3-12, 14, 16-22, 27, and 28 remain pending in the case. If the Examiner has any questions, comments, or suggestions, the undersigned earnestly requests a telephone conference.

No fees are required for filing this amendment; however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Conley Rose, P.C. Deposit Account No. 03-2769/5298-05700.

Respectfully submitted,



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